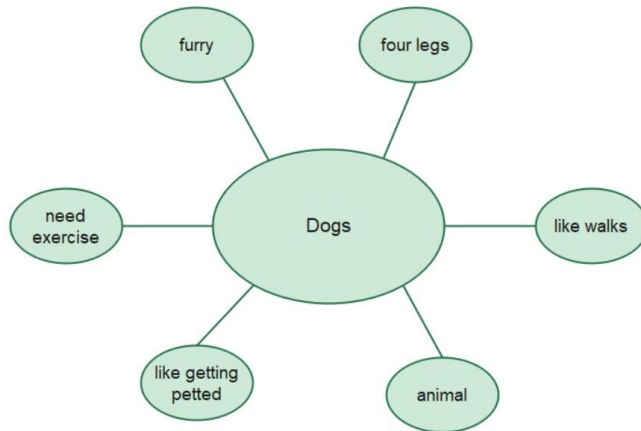# Nonfiction Text Structures

LHA Writing/Composition

Description

Definition → the author explains a _____
_____ by listing characteristics, features, and examples

● **Signal Words** → _____
_____

● **Example:** The dog was walking down the street saying hi to people.

● **Descriptive:** The _____ dog with _____ pranced along the _____ city street, getting _____ from many pedestrians who were passing by.
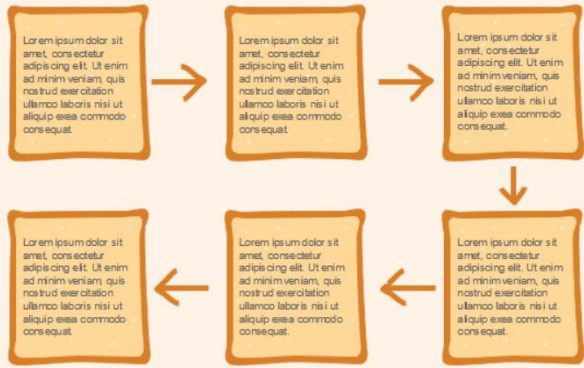

Bubble map with center "Dogs" connected to: furry, four legs, like walks, animal, like getting petted, need exercise

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Sequence

Definition → author lists items or events in _____ or _____order

● *Describes the order of events or how to do/make something*
● **Signal Words** → _____
_____
    ○ *Transition Words are very important with this structure*
● **Example:** Travis lived in Michigan. He lived Arizona for 8 years. Travis moved to Texas.
● **Sequence (transitions):** _____, Travis lived in Michigan for 23 years. _____, in 2013, he moved to Arizona. _____ Arizona for 8 years, Travis decided to move to Texas in June 2020.
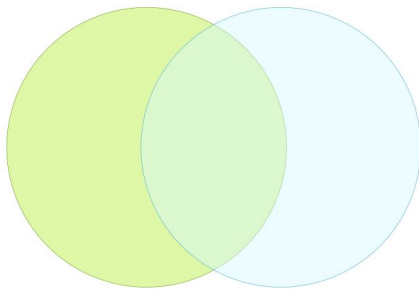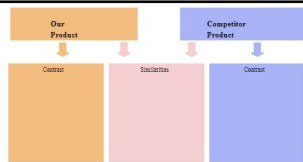
Compare and Contrast

Definition → author explains how two or more things are _____
and/or how they are _____

- **Signal Words** → _____
  _____

- **Example:** Michigan weather is the same as Texas, but
  different.

- **Compare/Contrast (transitions):** _____ Michigan
  weather is _____ Texas, it also _____ in
  areas.

Cause and Effect

Definition → author lists one or more _____
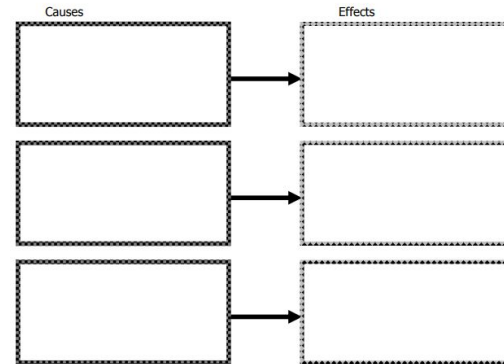and the resulting _____or _____.

- **Effect** → what happened?   **Cause** → What made it happen?
- Purpose is to explain why or how something happened, exists,
  or works
  - Often, there will be an "_____" pattern
- **Signal Words** → reasons why, if…then, as a result of,
  therefore, caused by, brought about by, effects of, etc

Cause and Effect (cont.)

- **Example:** The employee will lose his job.

- **Cause and Effect (transitions):** _____
  employee continues to yell disrespectfully at his boss,
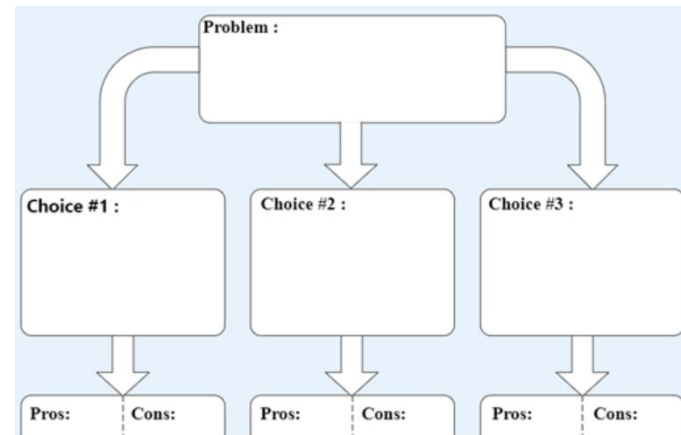 _____ probably lose his job.

Cause and Effect

Directions: Identify the causes and effects of events in the story.

Causes   Effects

Problem and Solution

Definition → author states a _____ and lists one or most
possible _____ to the problem

- *May also include _____ for the solutions*
- **Signal Words** → problem is, because, solution is, therefore, etc
- **Example:** Deserae was cold in the house and turned on the
  heat.
- **Problem and Solution (transitions):** Deserae _____
  _____ being cold in the house. _____
  her turning on the heat.

Problem :

Choice #1 :   Choice #2 :   Choice #3 :

Pros: Cons: Pros: Cons: Pros: Cons:

REFLECTION

Which of these text structures do you think would be easiest for you to use? Why?

Which of these text structures do you think would be hardest for you to use? Why?